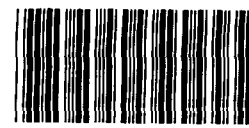


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 INTERIOR AND  
 INSULAR AFFAIRS

Congress of the United States  
 House of Representatives  
 Washington, D.C. 20515

February 27, 1989

SF FILE NUMBER

5-5101

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Mr. Larry Reed  
 Director, Hazardous Site Evaluation Division  
 Office of Emergency Remedial Response  
 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
 401 M Street S.W.  
 Washington, D.C. 20460

RE: EPA's Special Notice Letter for RI/FS on  
 Richardson Flat Tailings Site, Summit County, Utah

Dear Mr. Reed,

On October 5, 1988, Stephen Lingle, along with members of his staff, met at my office with myself, my Administrative Assistant Kenley W. Brunsdale and Edwin L. Osika, Jr., Vice-President of United Park City Mines Company to hear my preliminary questions regarding EPA's proposed listing of the Richardson Flat tailings site on the National Priorities List. At that time, Mr. Lingle made the commitment to me and the others present that EPA would not spend funds, nor require United Park City Mines Company to spend funds, for Remedial Investigations or Feasibility Studies until EPA had addressed and resolved serious procedural and substantive irregularities in proposing to list this site.

The EPA appears to be setting aside its commitment to me and has initiated its Special Notice letter to begin Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Studies at the site.

I am concerned with the critical policy issue that the Richardson Flat site has not been treated equally and considered on the same basis as the similar and adjacent Prospector Square tailings site. I am also concerned that EPA has not addressed and cured the substantial deficiencies in its scoring of the Richardson Flat site, which were noted in specific detail in the lengthy comments submitted to EPA by United Park City Mines Company.

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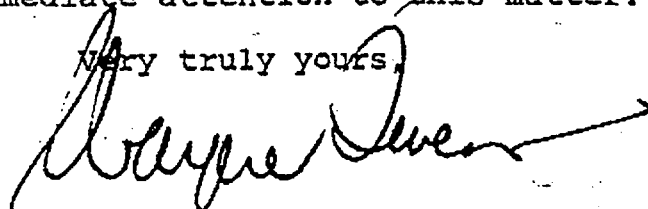
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I understand that most of the tailings at Richardson Flat are now covered with top soil and are seeded, or will be seeded this spring, at the sole expense of United Park City Mines Company. There is no public urgency for immediate action at this site. The timing of EPA's Special Notice letter is entirely discretionary.

I would be most appreciative if the EPA would withdraw its Special Notice letter and proceed to address the questions of equity and process that I have raised.

Thank you for your immediate attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,



Wayne Owens

cc: Stephen Lingle, EPA  
Gene Taylor, EPA-Region VIII